TRANSVESTITES 'EN FEMME'

\$9.00

# PHOTO ANNUAL



LEFT: ANNDREA DAVIS RIGHT: ALISON M. BELOW: JAYNE F.





LEFT: STEPHANIE CRAMER RIGHT: CHRISS S.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE OTHER Editor: or how to get your picture in our magazines

Lots of people ask us how they can get their picture in our magazines: LadyLike, International TranScript and the Photo Annual. It's really very simple. But, first, let me say that it is not a requirement that you be a drop-dead gorgeous beauty. We're really interested in portraying the typical crossdresser and your photos are very important to us in that respect.

All we really need are a few clear, sharp photos. They can be in color or black and white; it doesn't matter to us. We can't use Polaroid® or other "instant" photos and we prefer not to work with 35mm slides. The most common reason we reject a photo is because it's too dark and the halftoning process will just muddy it up even more. The next most common reason is lack of contrast. We've had photos so washed out you'd think they'd been through the washer. This is especially common with those "cheapie" 40-snaps-for-\$2 repro services.

This issue of the Photo Annual has an excellent article by Delia vanMaris on Photographic Techniques. Read it. Study it. Try out her advice. Then, send us your photos. And remember, keep it clean. All of our magazines have the same photo policy: sexy is OK, erotic is OK, but no genitals must show and no sexual activity.

**Betty Roberts** 

Now, back to our regularly scheduled editorial already in progress...

... So, I was wondering, what the Hell was that about all the photos being taken prior to November 1, 1990? It was true, but I didn't put it there. So, STAR must have done it, but why? The reason is chilling.

Part of the federal Omnibus Crime Bill passed last Fall contained provisions that require producers of images depicting sexual activity occurring after November 1, 1990 to maintain records proving the identity and age of the models portrayed. In addition, the law requires producers to put a sticker on every item stating the street address where the records are kept.

The law makes it a felony punishable by two years in prison and a \$25,000 fine for anyone — including a private individual without commercial intent — to produce a sexually explicit photograph, film or video without maintaining the required records and putting the sticker on the product. In addition, it is a felony for anyone to trade, distribute or sell sexually explicit material that does not bear a sticker.

Whew!!! Am I glad we have a "No Sex" photo policy. STAR was just playing CYA. There is no way that anyone, not even Jesse Helms, could interpret LadyLike as "sexual" material, or could they? You can never tell with these Anti-First Amendment crusaders.

The law, thankfully, was held to be unconstitutional in a federal court, just as a similar, but more restrictive law, was struck down in 1988. This latest round at protecting the "morals" of what adults may view was led by Senators Strom Thurmond (R-South Carolina) and Dennis Concini (D-Arizona). If you live in either of those states, why not send a strong letter to the "honorable" senators voicing your objection to their poking around in your reading list.

JoAnn Roberts

# TRANSVESTITES 'EN FEMME'

# PHOTO AMUAL

## In This Issue ...

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## TVs en-femme



Above: Pam Westin as Cher with friend. Right: Andrea Susan Mitchell



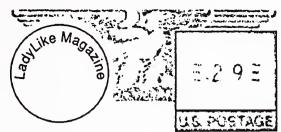


The Princess of the Poconos and her Court — Spring '91: (from I. to r.)

Delia van Maris, Ms. Sophistication; Lorraine B., Ms. Congeniality; Samantha Ryan, Princess; Jennifer B., Ms. Ingenue.

# LETTERS

## TO THE EDITOR



#### It's Lonely In The Closet

Dear JoAnn,

Being a closet TV for many years, I have found it hard and, at times lonely, to be a "girl." On one side you must hide because of position in the straight community (believe me — I cannot come out) and on the other side the girls in the TV community saying you are a wimp for not coming out. I find it like walking a tight rope being in the closet.

Nevertheless, I have the greatest admiration for the work you are doing. I have been thrilled by your publications and all the information therein. As a professional person I can fully appreciate the professional approach you are taking. Your advice on letters and in your forum is more than helpful. I can honestly say I see you as a good friend rendering a good service.

Please keep up the good work and I will keep dressing. Sometime in the future when we all meet in TV heaven, I'll be sure to look you up and give you a much deserved hug.

Affectionately, Brandi, California



#### She's Less Confused & More Positive

Dear JoAnn,

Let me begin by saying "Thank You." Even though we've never met, you've done a lot for me through your wonderful magazine, Lady-Like. Thanks to you, my life is less confused and more positive.

My name is Jennifer. I'm 24 years old. I live in New York. I've been crossdressing for years now. In the last six months I've been making efforts to meet others who share my love for crossdressing. Yours is the first publication that doesn't cater to thrill-seekers who want nothing more than to masturbate while staring at the pictures.

I was so impressed with LadyLike that I'm sending a photo for the Mirror-Mirror section and a one year subscription. Also, I'd like to purchase a copy of *Art & Illusion: A Guide to Crossdressing*.

Many times I've been reading an article in LadyLike and I say to myself, "That's right!" or "That's just how I feel." Already I feel more comfortable as a crossdresser. I even told my girlfriend about it, who, to my surprise and delight, expressed an interest in it.

Please keep up the good work. If you need an incentive, think of all the people like me who feel better about themselves for having read your magazine and for knowing, "This is not wrong. We are not alone."

Hugs, Jennifer, NY



#### **Something Was Missing**

Dear JoAnn,

I just got through reading your Photo Annual (LL#8). The first thing I noticed was that the layout and the choice of photos was more, well, "Ladylike." But, something seemed missing.

I pulled out the first seven issues [of Lady-Like] and concluded that it was because there was no Girl Talk section and no Profile section. Then I read the introduction and learned your partner put together most of the issue. Well, that may be the formula for the best TV publication

#### Letters, cont'd.

yet: let a crossdresser handle the editorial content and a person with an eye for beauty handle the artwork.

Looking over other issues all at once highlighted how tastefully you have handled the erotic aspects of crossdressing. This is a publication that can, after all, be shown to someone else, so it is important that this aspect of crossdressing not be swept under the rug.

I've been buying crossdressing magazines for about 22 years now, and have been noticing the increasing sophistication of the genre, with your publications and *Tapestry* far superior to all others. I think these magazines perform a valuable service to those young, confused, sometimes frightened crossdressers who eventually manage to sneak into an adult bookstore at whatever age and learn from these magazines that they are not in need of a sanatorium, that there are others out there like themselves, and that their urges can be managed.

For the more mature crossdresser, these publications make it easier to explain things to a significant other. Maybe the majority of these magazines are sold in the "porno" districts, but they serve a far more socially useful purpose than the majority of the magazines sold on newsstands and in drugstores. And let's face it, the average layman doesn't get much out of scholarly journals written by and for professionals.

Love, Rochelle, NY



#### Thanks From The Both of Us

Dear JoAnn,

As the wife of a heterosexual crossdresser, may I extend to you my deepest thanks for your magazines. They are well written, well edited and something you can be proud of.

I have always understood my husbands need to find reading material that would put him in touch with other crossdressers and also keep him up to date and "in tune" with what is going on in that world. I also realize that every subculture has its share of people who have fetishes and fantasies that are somewhat off the wall. Up until now I have felt that the majority of the literature and magazines for crossdressers have been geared to that element of the subculture rather than toward the average, well adjusted heterosexual crossdresser. It was refreshing to see a magazine with beauty and clothing tips, interesting articles and wholesome pictures. It was a pleasure to be able to read it, from cover to cover, without having to sift out the trash and sort through the articles and to not be repulsed or disgusted by anything we read.

I believe that if a man is going to become an attractive woman and emulate the feminine that he should seek to emulate the finer feminine qualities. Your magazine also seems to encourage its readers along those lines rather than dwelling on the sexual aspects of the cross-dressing phenomenon.

Again, thank you! Sincerely yours, Jane T., WI

Dear JoAnn,

I just wish to add to what my wife had to say. Of all the magazines I have ever read or seen, I believe your to be right at the top of the pile. It is one of the most informative, well done magazines of its kind. Hold your head high, girl, your doing a great job.

Again I want to thank you for a wonderful magazine. Loads of success in the future and years to come!

Hugs and Kisses, Betty T., WI



#### Sleepwalkers Beware!

Dear JoAnn,

I've always wanted to write you a letter, but it so hard to write something that doesn't sound silly the next day. I've ended up tossing those letters in the trash. I was sitting in my hotel room tonight trying to think of something to write you about. It soon became very clear. The subject is carelessness. It became clear because I was sitting at the desk, pen in hand, listening to a tape on my Walkman. I had slipped into a new bra, panties, and garter belt that I had just purchased at Macy's and was sipping on a glass of white wine as I struggled with how to start this letter. I stood up and began walking toward the bathroom where I had the wine bottle on ice, when the door of my room opened and in walked a not-unattractive hotel maid. I froze for a second, but then ripped off my headset. We just stared at each other for a moment. I'd not put any makeup on yet and there was no question that I was exactly what I was, a man in women's clothing, underwear more precisely.

Finally she stuttered, "Turndown service. I knocked." I hadn't heard, because of the head-set, and I'd been careless because I'd not checked to be sure all the door locks were in place. I finally said, "Thank you, I'll take care of it myself." She said, "Have a good evening" and walked out the door. This incident brought to mind others that almost exposed me.

About a year ago I was in a hotel and was enjoying dressing in a new wardrobe I had put together, along with a wig and full makeup. I had done this many times before but had never ventured outside of the hotel room. As usual, I had several drinks while doing the longest part of the routine, applying makeup. When my dressing was complete I thought I looked good enough to take a walk around the outside of the hotel, which I did without encountering anyone. It was a great feeling, but it was nearing midnight so I lay down on my bed when I returned and I fell asleep.

I woke a few hours later with my hand on my hotel room doorknob, from the outside. I don't know how I got there. I'm not aware of my sleepwalking habits. The door was locked and I was outside, without my purse, which held my room key when I went for my walk. I was completely dressed, with the exception of my heels. When I finally realized I was not having a dream, I began to panic. How did this happen? Had I sleepwalked and left my purse and shoes somewhere? I decided to check all around the

outside balcony, which encircled the hotel. Maybe I had kicked off my shoes and left my purse out there somewhere. As I headed for the outside doorway it opened. Through the door walked a uniformed security man, complete with badge! My first thought was OK, its all over now! But I dropped my head, brushed my bangs with my hand, and keep walking. He smiled at me and opened the door for me. I smiled back, walked through the door, and almost collapsed on the balcony. My hour long search produced no shoes, purse or key, so I had only one alternative, go to the desk for a second key. I went to the desk, asked for a key and got one, surprisingly with little fuss or strangelooks. I was very relieved. I thought I was going to get out of this mess without drawing undue attention. I went back to my room, inserted the key, turned it, promptly broke it off in the lock.

I began making the usual promises that I would never crossdress again and headed back to the front desk for a second key. In the hallway I passed an obviously intoxicated woman and she merely smiled. The desk clerk did not smile, however, when I showed up at the desk and said I needed another key because the last one broke. He was not amused, but got another key and said he would open the door for me. I followed him back to my room, feeling totally humiliated, and waited as he dug out the old key and opened the door with the new one. What could I do but say "Thank you." The door closed and I immediately spotted my purse with room key on the table and my high heels next to the bed.

I used to set a chair in front of the door when I dressed so if someone knocked while I was sleeping, I would be reminded, if groggy, that I was dressed and not open the door. I didn't do that this time, or tonight, and look what happened. This letter already is too long, so other careless mistakes, like my high heel showing up on the baggage X-ray at the airport will have to wait for another time.

Love, Lacy, San Francisco

#### Letters, cont'd.



#### Still Evolving From Her Cocoon

Dear JoAnn,

May I commend you on what an excellent job and sacrifice you put forth for the gender community. I don't know where you find your time and energy, but I know what it takes and you're one of the exemplary few who have taken the step forward to make life better for those of us who have been dressing in darkness for years—Thank You!!

Since coming out a year ago, I've made some very close and dear friends, one of which it was fun to see in one of your issues — Danielle, from Burbank (see LL#6). Anyway, I'm still early in my stages of evolving from my cocoon and somewhat nervous, but slowly I am gaining more confidence in my femme side and growing to understand more — who she really is — she is me and has always been with me. I don't want to get carried away with a long letter to you. I just want to say thanks for what you've

done and what your doing for us. You have helped me to realize who I am and that my "soft" side really helps to make me a better person in life.

Just a little background, I have been dressing over 30 years now, have a beautiful, supportive wife of over 15 years and three great children. I grew up in Massachusetts and moved west after a military discharge.



Take care! Sincerely, Lyn, Utah



#### Impressed with Our Magazine

Dear JoAnn:

Just love your publication "LadyLike!" First rate and all class — photography, models, and subject material.

It's a real pleasure to see models dressed, and looking like "ladies" and I'm certainly impressed

with your models, all very lovely including one JoAnn Roberts. Your extremely convincing and great legs!

Ihope you'll excuse this note in pencil, JoAnn, but as you can see my penmanship isn't all that great, and in ink, it's terrible, so I hope you'll bear with me. I'm particularly impressed with your profile section. Again, I think your models are all terrific and very interesting to read about their backgrounds and be able to compare notes. I'm including some photos of myself in the hopes that they will be good enough for your consideration for publication in LadyLike and a little about myself.

I'm 29 years old and work as a hair dresser. I live in San Ramon, California which is just outside of San Francisco, I'm 5'10" and as Danielle (I love her) would say, right, just right. I'm a 38 -28- 38. My favorite things are: shopping for feminine things, music, dancing, theater, movies, walks on the beach and tennis (I love those adorable little tennis outfits.) Turnons: beautifully dressed, sexy and interesting people. Sexy legs. Sincerity, honesty. Turn-offs: hairy legs in nylons and showing "it" off while dressed. I enjoy sex. I don't enjoy smut. I should also add that a little over a year ago I wrote a column for another publication. I don't intend to resume that association even though I was treated fairly.

Like many others, I started dressing at an early age borrowing "mother's clothes." Then one day, while in college I got the irresistible urge to obtain a wardrobe of my own. One outfit from head to toe. I needed to be the total "girl", not just partly dressed with my nylons and panties, and a slip.

After school, I went to a nice shopping center with boldness in my heart. I had to have those clothes. But after a few weak tries in the dress and lingerie stores I wilted, turned away disgusted with my cowardice. Then, in desperation, I thought of seeking out female shoppers and asking them to do my shopping for me on the excuse that the items I wanted were for my Mothers birthday. But, I'm afraid the urgency of my need frightened them away. I went home



empty and absolutely dejected.

Looking back, its comical to think how difficult it was for me to make simple purchases of dressed, skirts, blouses, lingerie, stockings, heels and even foundation garments that I do with such ease and joy today. But, I'm sure that others starting out find themselves in the same position today although the "climate" is far different today than it was ten years ago. I wish them all understanding and good luck.

Well, JoAnn thanks for your patience, and consideration. I would love to be able to join your select group of "girls" that grace the pages of LadyLike. Best wishes for continued success.

Love, Sally, California





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Letters, cont'd.

#### Can't Say Enough

Dear JoAnn Roberts:

I can't say enough good things about Lady-Like. What a great magazine! One of the best parts is the many photos of real TV's. So along with everyone else I'm sending in some photos of myself hoping to appear in a future issue of LadyLike. I hereby give you permission to publish the enclosed photos. Well, keep up the good work and take care.

Sincerely, FB, Allentown, Pa.









Letters, cont'd.

#### Magazine Is So Classy

Dear JoAnn,

I just love your magazine! It is so classy! I have



enclosed a few pictures of myself. If you think they're worth including in your magazine, please do so! I would love to know what issue they would be in so that I could get a copy. I have only recently begun to seriously consider passing in public as a woman. I am 6', 180 pounds, and am starting to lose weight (trying to get into a 12!) With the help of your magazine (realizing that I am not alone.) I think that I can be the woman that I have always known was within me. And I am so happy!

Lisa, Pittsburgh



#### **Thrilled With Photo Coverage**

Dear JoAnn, Here I was being very negligent about writ-



ing you a "thank you" note for using so many of my photos in the Photo Annual (LL#8) when you reminded me about my subscription renewal to LadyLike.

Enclosed please find my renewal. I do not want to miss a single issue. The quality of Lady-Like needs all the support our culture can give it. Thank you for all the time, effort, and concern you have shown to the lifestyle I enjoy.

Laura Ralston, IL





#### Class — Not Trash

Dear JoAnn:

My fem name is Sussi, I am from Kalamazoo, 45,5'10", 160, single and have been a lover of the femme mystique for a long, long time. I also have read every issue of LadyLike and think it's pure class and not trash.

I've enclosed a couple of photo's for your Mirror-Mirror pages and hope they will reprint OK. Your Girl-Talk pages are the greatest, real



question from real sisters with a complete understanding answer. Keep up the good work!

All my love and admiration to you and your staff on a great magazine.

Sincerely, Sussi, Kalamazoo, MI



#### An Incredible Phenomenon

Dear JoAnn:

I'd like to ask a favor, if it wouldn't be too much trouble. Please change my penname from "Denise" to "Pandora." I've come to the realization that Pandora is a classier name and suits my personality better. Besides, who wants to be a commonplace TV?

A few comments on LL #8: Your latest efforts paid off very well. Good ideas, pictures, and print all combined to give plenty of support to the readers who say that LadyLike isn't just another magazine — it's a phenomenon. An incredible phenomenon worthy of inspection even by the Hubbell telescope! We gals and our

personalities are being brought into sharper focus by caring and feeling human beings, and scrutinized not by a bunch of half-crazed psychologists with delusions of adequacy, but by sincere companions-of-earth who know more abut what love means than all those religious fanatics who spout off pointing their fingers at us and yelling "SIN!!" and in the process giving god a bad name.

But don't let it get to your head, sweetie. I say that because I've seen many people's personalities take a turn for the worse when inundated by compliments. It's far better to keep a level head and stay humble.

Sincerely, Pandora, Connecticut



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Letters, cont'd.



#### **Loves Her Illusion Breastforms**

Dear JoAnn,

What a pleasure it was to meet you at the "Be All" this June. To meet the publisher of my favorite magazines, was one of the memorable thrills of attending my first "Be All."

I am enclosing several pictures and especially like the one of you and me in the lobby. I have never had my picture in a magazine or a letter to the editor for that matter and would be thrilled if you could publish both in LadyLike.



As I told you in person I am very satisfied with the quality items CDS offers, but especially with your Illusion Breastforms. They look and feel so marvelous. I am 67 years old and have been passing in public since age 16 and through the years have accumulated an extensive wardrobe but I would give all the lovely things I own away just to have my new breasts. I have a large selection of lacy bras but seldom wear a bra now because my new breasts feel great while attached to my chest under a pretty camisole. I also "wear" them every night — no more bras under a nightie! Now I can buy nightgowns that enhance my breasts and feel completely female.

I have worn them continually for seven days this week, showered with them on (which is a really exhilarating experience) and have not had a rash or any problems. I also know that you have them priced right. Having seen other of the same type forms which was more expensive but I prefer mine. By the way if you print this letter and any other gals want to know more about my four month daily experience with them, I'll be very happy to answer any inquiries directed to the address below. My new breasts have enhanced my feminine life and contributed so much to my cherished femininity. Thank you again for being so kind to me in Cleveland and for the integrity of CDS.

Ithink the ultimate compliment to you, JoAnn, was when we met in the elevator as males on Sunday morning, I did not recognize you. There was no resemblance to sweet, or maybe I should say sexy, JoAnn!

Sincerely, TRT P.O. Box 43 Bay City, MI 48707



Letters, cont'd.



#### Can't Wait For Pocono Weekend

Dear JoAnn,

I received your acknowledgment of my payment for the Paradise In The Poconos weekend. I'm looking forward to meeting you. Now all I have to do is figure out what to bring to wear. My whole wardrobe and wig collection will not fit in the car. I'm sure I'll find a compromise.

Irecently returned from a trip out West. I had the pleasure of meeting with Jeri Jones (LL#10 Profile) and Danielle (LL#6 Profile). I had a great time. When I left Danielle in Burbank I concluded that she must know almost everyone who is involved with crossdressing. I also met a number of other TVs. It was great to have a chance to meet with such neat people who share a similar interest.

I figured while I was writing I'd send along a couple more recent photos. I've also finished a





set of "Transformation" photos, but they didn't turn out as well as I would have liked. I'll bring them with me to the weekend.

Again, I'm looking forward to meeting you and all of the folks involved with Paradise In The Poconos.

Sincerely, Stella, Florida

[Ed. note — For more photos and an interview with Stella, see LL#9.]



#### Not A "Pervert" Or "Mentally III"

Dear JoAnn,

I'm enclosing several photographs of myself for publication in LadyLike magazine if you think they are worthy. I'm a relatively inexperienced crossdresser, having only been totally dressing for the last six months. I have been a crossdresser for forty years and didn't realize it. It was only after I discovered LadyLike that I

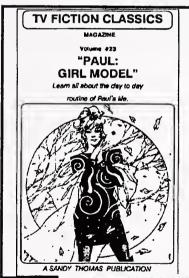
realized I wasn't a "pervert" or "mentally ill." I then began to relax and enjoy what I couldn't change anyway. Before I discovered LadyLike, I would never allow myself to dress. I have always liked and owned many pairs of ladies high heels, but until recently that was the extent of my crossdressing.

I'm now 46 years old and I hope, for the most part, that my image reflects a mature character. If you have any suggestions, please write to me and tell me how I can improve myself. I'm a novice who could profit by any advice that you could give. I've enjoyed your two *Art & Illusion* books; they are an indispensable resource.

Since coming out I have found my dressing experiences very pleasant and rewarding. I only wish I could share it with my wife and children, but I'm afraid that their finding me dressed would shatter them. They are too much of the conformist to appreciate or tolerate any deviation from the norm.

I truly enjoy LadyLike. I only wish that I







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#### TVs en-femme

#### Letters, cont'd.

could find a new issue in my post office box every day. I read through them so quickly that it seems an eternity until the next one arrives. I would encourage you to consider increasing the frequency of publication. I could never get too much of a good thing.

Thank you for being there when I desperately needed company and didn't know where to turn. It's nice to have a publication that understands me and, in turn, helps me understand myself.

Hugs, Denise, Missouri



#### Paid Her Dues The Hard Way

Dear JoAnn,

I want to let you know what a great job you folks did on the first Photo Annual (LL#8). It was the first issue of your magazine that I received. The comments by your readers in regard to your regular issues certainly whetted my appetite. Enclosed is a money order for my subscription to LadyLike. I'm also sending you





some snapshots.

I have copies of both of your books [Art & Illusion and the A&I Companion] and I must say that they have helped me a lot in achieving what I consider a passing appearance. My height of 5'8" and a small frame of 136 lbs. help. I'm still looking for ways to improve my appearance. Aren't we all. I wish that I knew about CDS long ago. I certainly paid my dues on the road to finding respectable and sympathetic organizations serving the needs of the transgender community. I have paid exorbitant prices for information and products. I'll bet that some of your readers have similar tales. We both know, being a woman (or part-time woman) is not easy.

I'm looking forward to the next issue. Best Wishes, Robyn, TN



#### A Tasteful & Excellent Publication

Dear JoAnn,

I'd like to renew my subscription to LadyLike magazine. I would also like to compliment you on your excellent publication. It is one of the few to tastefully represent the transvestite in both photos and text.

I have enclosed some photos for your consideration. I'm over forty years old and have been dressing since my preteens. Being over six feet tall doesn't allow many public appearances but when I can get out it's Heaven!

Sincerely, Cathy Rogers



#### $\circ \circ \circ \circ$

#### Poetry by April Willis

The Lady Underneath For years I've hid the woman Who's always shared my life But I recently introduced her To the woman who is my wife They got along rather well They laughed and talked a bit My wife began to teach her How to walk, stand and sit Shopping trips for dresses Make up tips and fashion too My two best friends together Every experience new Everyone has a secret They hide without a trace Mine lies beneath my clothes Silks, satins and lace But my wife has met the lady Who for years I've had to hide There is no problem they are friends And always at my side The lady who for years I've hid And never left a trace Now is free to come and go And show her pretty face.

April and I April like a Phoenix rises From deep within my heart A pleasant girl who brings surprises And wisdom to impart Now together we abide Each one taking turns Each one rises to the top 'Till the other one returns Slowly things are rearranging She is not gone, when she is done In the mirror we are changing No longer two, but blended one A bit of April in the glass This is what I see Leftover hints of feminine class As she is I and I am she Subtle hints of who we are

Two personalities merged

# Photographic Techniques I

by Delia vanMaris

You've spent hours making up and getting dressed. It may be the new outfit, a new wig or a new make-up technique. Whatever the reason, you feel fantastic and want to capture the moment. Do you really look as good as you feel? If so, wouldn't it be great to be able to re-kindle the sensation later with a photo? How could you improve your image? A photo can help.

Unfortunately, you are by yourself, no friend to snap a picture, much less a photographer with any experience. How to proceed becomes a problem unless you have planned in advance for just such an eventuality. Let's look at some of the basic equipment you'll need to increase the chance of a successful photo shoot.

First of all, you'll need a camera. In case you haven't noticed, the technology has changed greatly in the past few years. I remember in my early years rigging a box camera with a long string (to trip the shutter) using available light. Everything about that last statement has changed. Find one of the newer point-and-shoot (P&S) systems that has: (1) a 35mm lens, (2) a built in flash/focus and sensors and, (3) a timed delay system so that you can get in the picture. I also recommend one with a zoom system which will enhance head and shoulder shots (we'll return to this later). Some cameras also have infrared systems with time delay, so you can trip the shutter once you are posed. I've had minimal success with such a system because they don't work for repeated shots. If the time delay is in the range of 10-15 seconds, there is usually adequate time for you to get repositioned in front of the camera. I particularly like the Olympus Infinity Auto-Zoom and the Nikon Zoom Touch 500. You can expect to spend about \$300; shop around because prices vary. Cheaper systems just do not perform adequately. More

able if you're a photographer and the subject.

The camera is the easy part. There are other

expensive and complex cameras are fine if you're

really into photography but are not as service-

importantitems necessary to improve your skills as photographer/model. These include:

TRIPOD—This is an indispensable but not necessarily expensive item. Choose a table-top or floor model with extension legs. You do not need the kind required to shoot videos as they are cumbersome and expensive. Look for sales and expect to spend \$20-\$35.

FILM—Choose ASA 200-400 if using flash, but ASA 100 is adequate with good available light. Professionals usually shoot slide film because of the color range and sharpness. It is difficult to transfer these advantages from slide to print. Private screenings are more difficult without a projector. Generally, I prefer prints, but try both and determine your own preference.

BATTERIES—Always carry a fresh set of batteries. Everything important about these P&S cameras depends on it. They all have automatic advance which expends energy. Most will not focus or flash with weak batteries. Even worse, the weak battery may send the camera into a rewind mode and your shoot is terminated.

MIRROR—Yes, a mirror. I recommend the cheap variety that measures 1'by 4' because it's portable and if placed appropriately gives you a decent view for your full body shots. Place this mirror behind the camera so it appears you're looking at the camera, while you're actually assessing your full-length reflection. You can buy these mirrors for less than \$10. If you're traveling, buy one and just leave it for the maid when you depart.

MOLLY THE MANNEQUIN—This is my name for the static subject you substitute for yourself while you assess lighting, framing and focus. Carry an extra wig (it can be cheap, ratty, and snarled) and affix it and a dress, towel, robe or anything body-sized to a chair, lamp, music stand or any movable object. Use this mannequin when you're fully dressed, made-up and ready to shoot, having practiced your smile, positioning and poses.



Fig.1: Verical blinds used as a backdrop with available light and camera flash.



Fig.3: Available light and flash. Be careful of mirrors and extraneous items in the viewfinder.

Fig.2: Contrasting outfit & backdrop, using camera flash and a side fill-in light. ▼





#### Photo Technique, cont'd.

BACKGROUND—You must now begin to see yourself in the context of the total picture. This is particularly important in confined spaces such as a hotel room, but can be important outside as well. On the one hand you may have a fan or light fixture springing from your ear, or an oak tree sprouting from your crown. Find a blank wall, hang a sheet, move around and scrutinize the possibilities. The more cluttered the environment, the more it distracts from you as the central figure. If you have the opportunity at home, try a roll of seamless paper. It comes in a variety of colors and can be suspended with a simple system such as broom handles.

Now you're set. Check your clothes and makeup, set up the camera on the tripod about 10-12 feet from the background and position the mirror. Practice your smile or "look" and experiment with body poses. When you have decided how to proceed, put Molly in front of the camera and you step behind it. Move the camera closer or further back to fill the frame with the figure without losing the head or those fabulous high heels. With a little experimentation this gets easier. Try to avoid the extreme of moving the camera too far away so that extraneous items appear in the photo, or you'll lose facial features. Next depress the shutter mechanism slightly so that the camera focuses on the mannequin, and ambient light is measured. The camera should now be in sharp focus and the flash mechanism activated if necessary. The camera will hold these data for several minutes, and, if not activated, will erase the memory and shut itself down, closing the lens cover. However, there is plenty of time for you to move Molly, activate the timer and position yourself in the picture. Try to be exactly where Molly was and check yourself out in that mirror. Within the specified time intervals you can go through several poses, repeat poses, or fire through the whole roll. If you change outfits, you will probably have to repeat the process of auto-focus and auto-flash adjustment.

I generally recommend using rolls of 24 exposures, and do not wind my own cassettes from bulk film rolls as I do when I'm only the photog-

rapher. A rule of thumb: consider yourself lucky to get one or two good shots out of 24.

The next step is just as important. As soon as practical run, don't walk, to the nearest one-hour photo processor. Good photographers keep a log so they can improve their skills and repeat conditions that led to a successful photo. I know of a professional that took hundreds of shots of the same outdoor scene at different times of day, different seasons, different angles and films, etc., to achieve a desired effect, and then brought the models in to complete the shoot. Other professionals use a Polaroid to get quick feedback on prevailing conditions.

You will need to know what you did right and what you did wrong so you can improve, and immediate feedback and note-taking are essential. Of course, since you are also the model you will be assessing the pose, carriage, make-up, facial features and other essentials in addition to focus, lighting, background, and props.

Once you form this habit, you will be amazed at how it expands your perceptions. Suddenly, light and color take on a different meaning, and ideas for scenes and poses will start popping into your head. You will have a new perspective on your femininity and how to project it. Even though your photos may not be as good as you would like, you will find a sense of personal satisfaction in the process.

Some final comments may be helpful before you begin experimenting. If you try to shoot studio pictures, i.e., head or head/neck only, use the telephoto set at 85-100 mm. Professional portraiture is usually done in this manner because of the lens and light physics, and the look is more natural. Be very careful to position yourself appropriately. Secondly, when taking any photo try not to look directly at the lens if the flash is close to it. Reflection of light from your retina will give you the dreaded "redeye." Newer cameras give short light bursts (before tripping the shutter) to constrict the pupil and minimize reflection from the eye.

Lastly, beware of backlighting. This is particularly important for those of us with very heavy beards. The best light is flat and fills in the face. Despite taking great pains to perfect your



Fig.5: Another window-box shot with camera flash used to filin backlighting.



Fig.6: Most shutter delays allow adequate time for subject positioning.

beard cover you will be chagrined at the five-o'clock shadow that backlighting will outline. This can occur both indoors and out. I have found this to be particularly problematic outdoors on a bright sunny day. Turned full-face to the sun, the camera finds the lines and wrinkles I've been developing for almost 50 years because of the squint. When backlit, my facial features may be relaxed and natural, but I look like Joe Palooka in a dress. You'll forgive me if I don't show you some of these examples—they're in the waste can at the One Hour Photo.



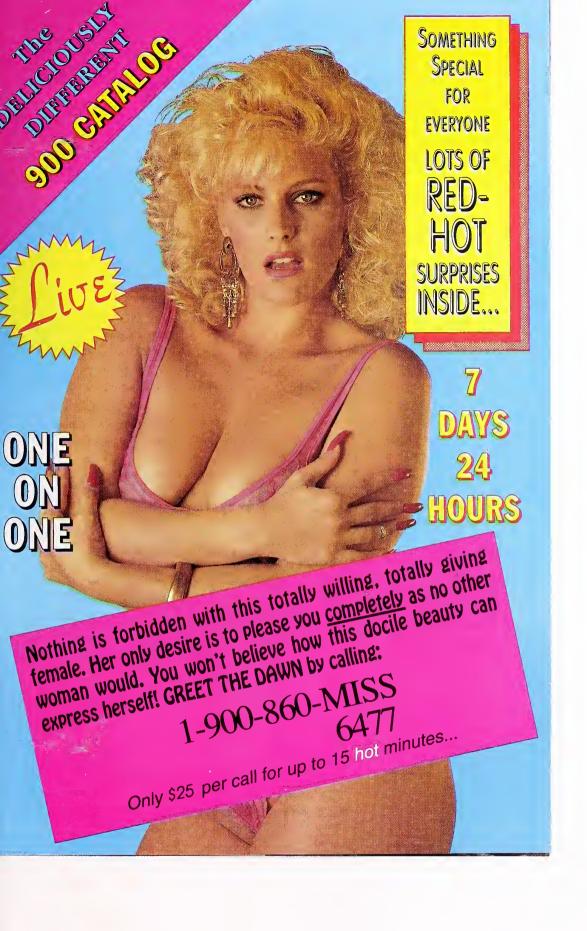
Fig.7: Open sunlight witrh sun overhead. Be wary of squinting and distant backgrounds.



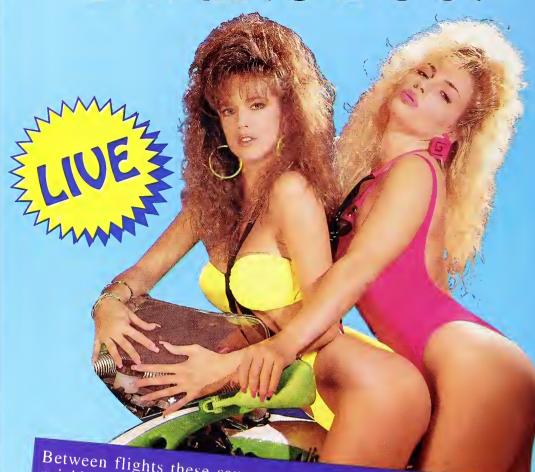
Fig.8: Open shade gives good light and no glare, but be careful of the background.

In a future article, we'll consider other lighting techniques. Meanwhile, try some of these suggestions and see if your photos don't improve significantly. •





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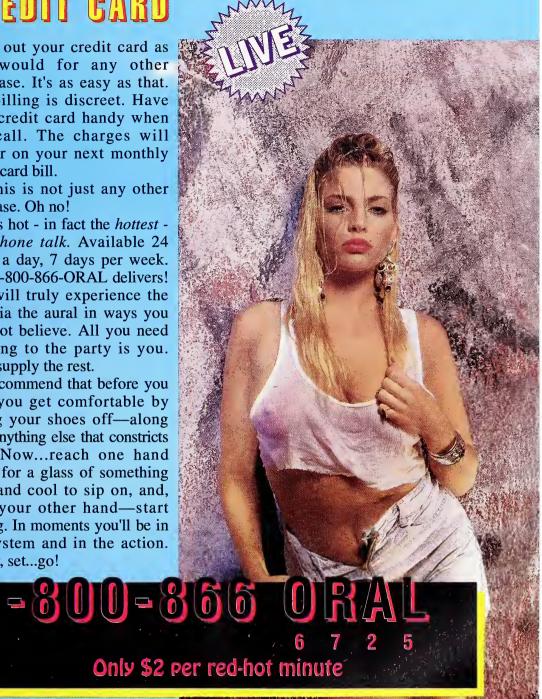
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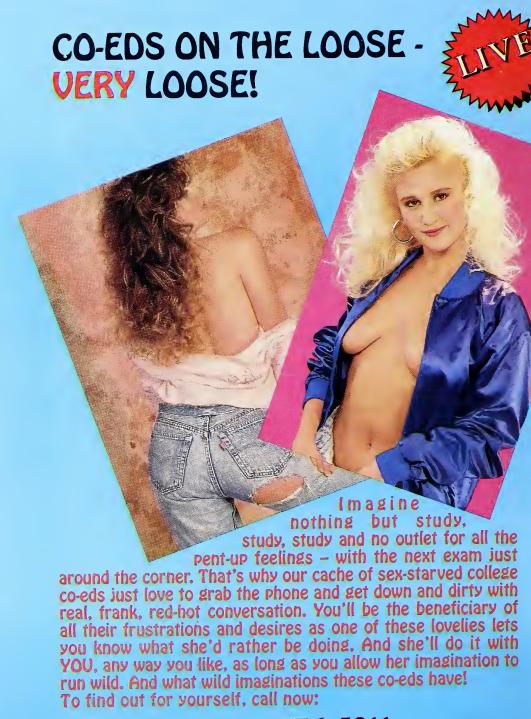
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## TVs en-femme



Clockwise from top left:
Denise Mason, Ct.;
Michelle, Okla.;
Tracy Ryan, Hawaii;
Diane, Minn.







# TRICIA'S TRANSFORMATION

PART 1: A TRUE STORY

Dear ladies,

I have enclosed some pictures of the continuing transformation of my fiance, who I now call Tricia. I am a dominant woman who believes that women need to take control of their lives and their relationships. For too long, women have been treated as second class citizens by males who have dominated virtually every aspect of female existence. I am one of a growing number of women who have decided that if males are feminized, women can expect a more secure, loving, and understanding relationship. In addition, the process of feminizing the male in your relationship will give you absolute control over him/her in all aspects of life.

Almostevery woman I know has been through troubles in relationships that have hurt them deeply. Their male mates leave them, divorce the, screw around on them and in general control the relationship as their male egos see fit. Seldom is this control used in a fashion that makes a woman happy or satisfied.

Early on I decided there must be an alternative to these many failed relationships. When I discovered Tricia's feminine tendencies which were somewhat latent, I decided to foster them. I found numerous articles Tricia had saved, all concerning dominated, feminized males. Reading copies of "lady like" and other publications convinced me that many males can be successfully transformed into feminized beings who are happy and content to serve their mistress's every whim.

The process of feminizing Tricia has been subtle but steady on my part. I first convinced her that panties would be much more comfortable than male underwear. In them, I had disposed of all of her male shorts and briefs, and replaced them with an array of lavish, frilly panties. After making numerous comments on how soft and smooth my skin is, and how rough and scratchy her hairy body was, I soon had her

convinced to shave her legs. After she did so, I continually commented on how nice her legs now felt when we made love. Her chest hair I told her, scratched my ultra-sensitive breasts and nipples. Soon after she had kept her legs shaved and silky smooth, I had her convinced to shave her chest and keep it soft and smooth for me as well. Underarm hair is unpleasant to look at and harbors bacteria as well. It wasn't long before she shaved it off due to my constant comments. Male deodorants are a no-no after shaving your underarms as they sting and irritate the skin. Soon, female deodorants were on her side of the vanity as well as on my side. Her pubic hair protruded from her panties, and it was necessary to trim and shape it into a small, feminine, heart shaped patch. Of course when you wear nylon panties, feminine deodorant spray is necessary to keep you feeling clean and fresh. It soon took it's place next to the feminine deodorant for underarms on her vanity. I wear frilly, sexy nighties every night and soon had Tricia convinced that their soft caress would make her feel much better in bed, not to mention the added sex appeal they have. If my wearing nighties excited Tricia sexually, why then should her wearing nighties not do the same for me?!! Before long she had an extensive collection of lacy, frilly nighties in her now ever increasingly feminine drawers and closet.

Smooth, hairless legs, are chaffed by pants and get so cold in winter. Panty hose, therefore, soon became part of her dressing before going to work. Males socks are so drab. Blue, grey, black, brown, is about it for colors. The new ties I was buying for Tricia to wear to work, had an array of colors in them. Ladies socks were next. After all, what better way to compliment the tie colors and coordinate an outfit? Soon she had a colorful array of socks in pink, green, gold, yellow, red, etc. Ladies summer "tee" shirts

## TVs en-femme

## Tricia certainly looks fabulously feminine!









## More photos of Tricia's Transformation.





were next, as they also are available in so many colors and styles! I had convinced Tricia that it was time to get rid of her drab styles and add a little spice to her life! Of course matching ladies socks are worn with the "tee" shirts to give a well coordinated look. With Tricia shaved and smooth from head to toe, dressing in feminine undergarments and carefully chosen outer garments, using feminine body preparations, and accustomed to wearing nighties every night, I was on my way to transforming and controlling her. In short order, her outdoor shorts and her jeans were ladies. Sometimes it took a while to get used to, but I persisted until not only was she uncomfortable with anything male in her wardrobe. Always subtle, but insistent, my plan was working beautifully!

With her now soft, feminized body, and wearing feminine attire every day, I noticed that Tricia was becoming more attuned to my needs, sexually and otherwise. Putting a male in panties and nighties, seems to make them more docile, tender lovers in bed. they are more willing to treat their mistresses body with gentle caress, and with proper training will then give complete satisfaction. Your feminized males

soon can be trained that satisfaction for them can only occur if you are satisfied first, and only when you feel they deserve a reward. When you make their satisfaction a reward for feminine dress and mannerisms, you can quickly achieve results in your transformation process.

As I told you earlier, I have enclosed some pictures taken recently of Tricia, to show my results with her thus far. As you will notice, she is almost to the point of no return to a male existence. I have no fear of her fooling around on me, and feel that I am nurturing a feminized companion, lover and maid, who is entirely devoted to me for life.

This will be the end of part 1. Even as I write this, I have made changes in Tricia's life which I will describe to you in my next article.

I hope that the ladies out there will read and heed my advise and the advise of other ladies on the subject of female domination of their males. I assure you domination will work, and with the proper training program, you will be most satisfied with the results in your relationships!

Bye for now. . . more to follow.

Mistress "T" ♦



Paula Jordan Sinclair (i.), Ms. Sopistication, Fali '90 and Pam Westin (r.), Princess of the Poconos, Fali '90



Diane McCoy





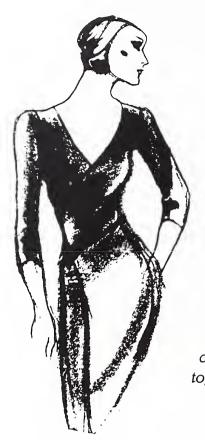




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Diane, Minnesota (upper left)
J. M., California (upper right)
Diane, Minnesota (center)
Cassie Owens, Seattle (lower right)
Jayne Mills, Louisana (lower left)







L. to R.: ■ Mary Black, New York, Heather, Pennsylvania & Joanie, Pennsylvania

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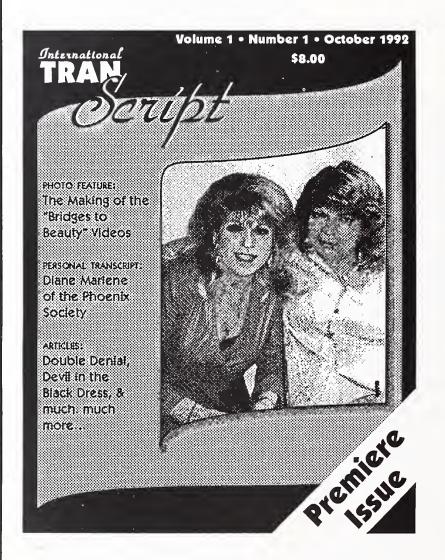
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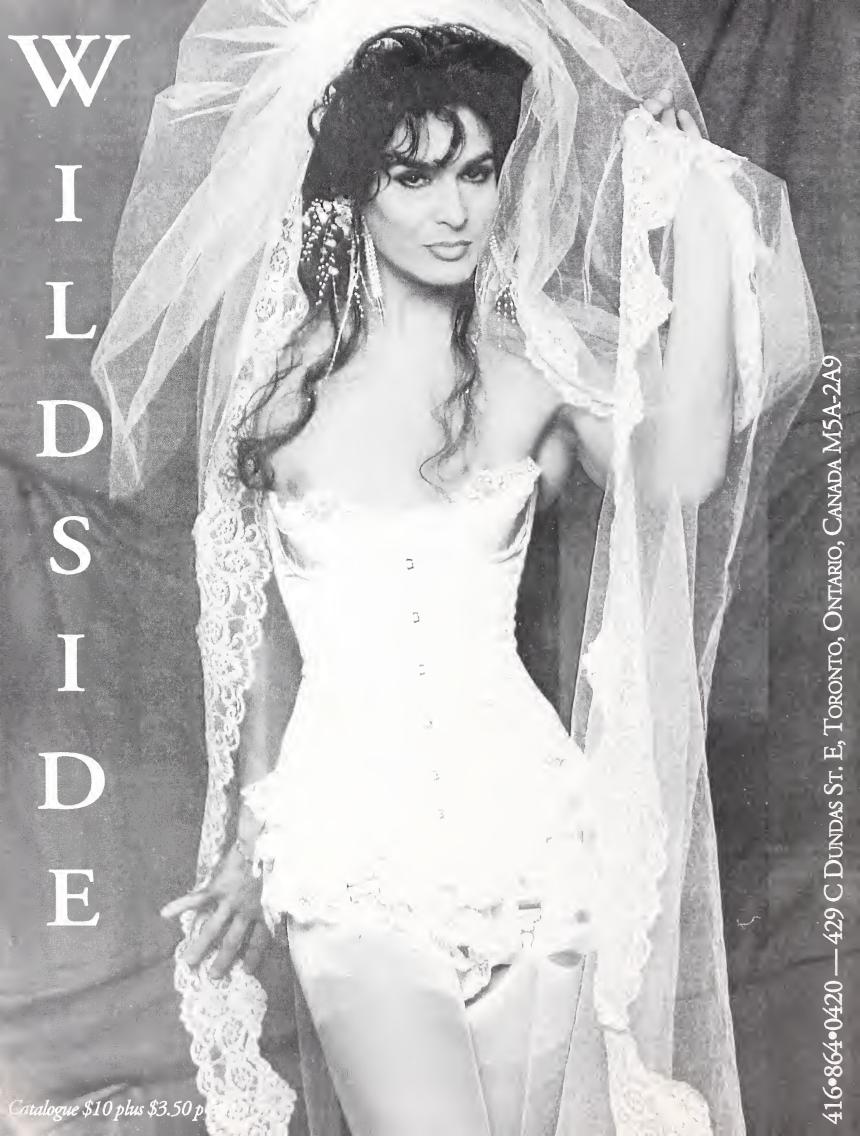
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